

2. To bias; to direct to either side.
Heav'n forgive them, that so much have sway'd
Your majesty's good thoughts away from me. *Shakespeare.*
I took your hands; but was, indeed,
Sway'd from the point, by looking down on Cæsar. *Shakespeare.*
The only way 't' improve our own,
By dealing faithfully with none;
As bows run true by being made
On purpose false, and to be sway'd. *Hudibras.*
3. To govern; to rule; to overpower; to influence.
The lady's mad; yet if 'twere so,
She could not sway her house, command her followers,
With such a smooth, discreet, and stable bearing. *Shakespeare.*
The will of man is by his reason sway'd;
And reason says, you are the worthier maid. *Shakespeare.*
On Europe thence, and where Rome was to sway
The world. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
A gentle nymph, not far from hence,
That with moist curb sways the smooth Severn stream,
Sabrina is her name. *Milton.*
Take heed lest passion sway
Thy judgment to do ought, which else free will
Would not admit. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
The judgment is sway'd by passion, and stored with lubricious opinions, instead of clearly conceived truths. *Glavin.*
This was the race
To sway the world, and land and sea subdued. *Dryden.*
With these I went,
Nor idle stood with unassisting hands,
When savage beasts, and men more savage bands,
Their virtuous toil subdu'd; yet those I sway'd
With powerful speech; I spoke, and they obey'd. *Dryden.*
When examining these matters, let not temporal and little advantages sway you against a more durable interest. *Tillotson.*
- TO SWAY. *v. n.*
1. To hang heavy; to be drawn by weight.
In these personal respects, the balance sways on our part. *Bacon.*
2. To have weight; to have influence.
The example of sundry churches, for approbation of one thing, doth sway much; but yet still as having the force of an example only, and not of a law. *Hooker.*
3. To bear rule; to govern.
The mind I sway by, and the heart I bear,
Shall never sag with doubt, nor shake with fear. *Shakespeare.*
Hadst thou sway'd as kings should do,
They never then had sprung like summer flies. *Shakespeare.*
Aged tyranny sways not as it hath power, but as it is suffered. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*
Here thou shalt monarch reign;
There didst not: there let him still victor sway. *Milton.*
- SWAY. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. The swing or sweep of a weapon.
To strike with huge two-handed sway. *Milton.*
2. Any thing moving with bulk and power.
Are not you mov'd, when all the sways of earth
Shakes like a thing unfirm? *Shakespeare. Julius Cæsar.*
Expert
When to advance, or stand, or turn the sway
Of battle. *Milton.*
3. Power; rule; dominion.
This fort had some fear that the filling up the seats in the consistory, with so great number of laymen, was but to please the minds of the people, to the end they might think their own sway somewhat. *Hooker.*
In the end, very few excepted, all became subject to the sway of time: other odds there was none, saving that some fell sooner, and some later, from the foundness of belief. *Hook.*
Only retain
The name and all th' addition to a king;
The sway, revenue, execution of th' heels,
Beloved sons, be yours. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*
Her father counts it dangerous
That she should give her sorrow so much sway,
And in his wisdom halts our marriage;
To stop the inundation of her tears. *Shakespeare.*
Too truly I amierane's successors they;
Each thinks a world too little for his sway. *Dryden. Aurengze.*
When vice prevails, and impious men bear sway,
The post of honour is a private station. *Addison's Cato.*
4. Influence; direction.
An evil mind in authority doth not only follow the sway of the desires already within it, but frames to itself new desires, not before thought of. *Sidney.*
They rush along, the rattling woods give way,
The branches bend before their sweepy sway. *Dryden.*
- TO SWEAR. *v. n.* preter. *swore* or *seare*; part. pass. *sworn*. [*swaran*, Gothic; *swepan*, Saxon; *swacen*, Dutch.]
1. To oblige some superior power; to utter an oath.
If a man vow a vow unto the Lord, or swear an oath to bind his soul with a bond, he shall not break his word. *Numb.*
I see, thee an hundred languages shall claim,
And savage Indians swear by Anna's name. *Titchel.*

2. To declare or promise upon oath.
We shall have old swearing
That they did give the rings away to men;
But we'll outface them, and outwear them too. *Shakespeare.*
I gave my love a ring, and outwear them too. *Shakespeare.*
Never to part with it; and here he stands,
I dare be sworn for him, he would not leave it,
Nor pluck it from his finger. *Shakespeare.*
I would have kept my word;
But, when I swear, it is irrevocable. *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*
Jacob said, *swear* to me; and he *swore* unto him. *Gen.*
Bacchus taken at Rhodes by Demetrius Poliorcetes, which he so esteemed, that, as Plutarch reports, he *swore* he had rather lose all his father's images than that table. *Peasham.*
3. To give evidence upon oath.
At what case
Might corrupt minds procure knaves as corrupt
To swear against you? *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*
4. To oblige the great name profanely.
Because of *swearing* the land mourneth. *Jer. xxiii. 10.*
Obey thy parents, keep thy word justly;
Swear not. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*
None so nearly disposed to scoffing at religion as those who have accustomed themselves to *swear* on trifling occasions. *Tillotson.*
- TO SWEAR. *v. a.*
1. To put to an oath.
Moses took the bones of Joseph; for he had *sworn* the children of Israel. *Ex. xiii. 19.*
Sworn afore, man, like a duck; I can swim like a duck, I'll be *sworn*. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*
Let me swear you all to secrecy;
And, to conceal my shame, conceal my life. *Dryden.*
2. To declare upon oath.
3. To oblige by an oath.
Now by Apollo, king, thou *swear'st* thy gods in vain.
—O vassal! miscreant!
SWEARER. *n. f.* [from *swear*.] A wretch who obliges the great name wantonly and profanely.
And must they all be hang'd that swear and lie?
—Every one.
—Who must hang them?
—Why, the honest men.
—Then the liars and *swearers* are fools; for there are liars and *swearers* enow to beat the honest men and hang them up. *Shakespeare.*
Take not his name, who made thy mouth, in vain;
It gets thee nothing, and hath no excuse;
Lust and wine plead a pleasure, avarice a gain;
But the cheap *swearer* through his open sluice
Lets his soul run for nought. *Herbert.*
Of all men a philosopher should be no *swearer*; for an oath, which is the end of controversies in law, cannot determine any here, where reason only must induce. *Provan.*
It is the opinion of our most refined *swearers*, that the same oath or curse cannot, consistently with true politeness, be repeated above nine times in the same company by the same person. *Swift's Polite Conversation.*
- SWEAT. *n. f.* [*speaz*, Saxon; *swet*, Dutch.]
1. The matter evacuated at the pores by heat or labour.
Sweat is salt in taste; for that part of the nourishment which is fresh and sweet, turneth into blood and flesh; and the *sweat* is that part which is excreted. *Bacon.*
Some insensible effluvia, exhaling out of the stone, comes to be checked and condensed by the air on the superficies of it, as it happens to *sweat* on the skins of animals. *Begh.*
Soft on the flow'ry herb I found me laid
In balmy *sweat*. *Milton.*
When Lucilius brandishes his pen,
And statues in the face of guilty men,
A cold *sweat* stands in drops on every part,
And rage succeeds to tears, revenge to smart. *Dryden.*
Sweat is produced by changing the balance between the fluids and solids, in which health consists, so as that projectile motion of the fluids overcome the resistance of the solids. *Boyle.*
2. Labour; toil; drudgery.
His painful labour of abridging was not easy, but a matter of *sweat* and watching. *2 Mac. ii. 26.*
The field
To labour calls us, now with *sweat* impos'd. *Milton.*
What from Johnson's oil and *sweat* did flow,
Or what more easy nature did bestow
On Shakespeare's gentler muse, in thee full grown
Their graces both appear. *Denham.*
3. Evaporation of moisture.
Beans give in the mow; and therefore those that are to be kept are not to be thrashed 'till March, that they have had a thorough *sweat* in the mow. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
- TO SWEAT. *v. n.* preterite *swet*, *swent*; particip. pass. *swet*, *swat*. [from the noun.]
1. To be moist on the body with heat or labour.
Shall I say to you,
Let them be free, marry them to your heirs?
Why *swet* they under burdens? *Shakespeare. Merchant of Venice.*

- Mistress Page at the door. *swearing* and blowings, and looking wildly, would needs speak with you. *Shakespeare.*
When he was brought again to the bar, to hear
His knell rung out, his judgment, he was thr'd
With such an agony, he *swent* extremely. *Shakespeare. H. V. III.*
About this time in autumn, there reigned in the city and other parts of the kingdom a disease then new; which, of the accidents and manner thereof they called the *swearing* sickness. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
- A young tall squire
Did from the camp at first before him go;
At first he did, but scarce could follow strait,
Swearing beneath a shield's unruly weight. *Cowley.*
2. To toil; to labour; to drudge.
How the drudging goblin *swet*
To earn his cream-bowl duly fet;
When in one night, ere glimpse of morn,
His shadowy flail hath thrash'd the corn. *Milton.*
Our author, not content to see
That others write as carelessly as he;
Though he pretends not to make things complete,
Yet, to please you, he'd have the poets *swet*. *Waller.*
3. To emit moisture.
Waitefoots will *swet* so that they will run with water.
In cold evenings there will be a moisture or *swetting* upon the roof. *Mortimer.*
- TO SWEAT. *v. a.* To emit as sweat.
Greece that's *swet*
From the murderer's gibbet, throw
Into the flame. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
For him the rich Arabia *swets* her gum. *Dryden.*
- SWEATY. *adj.* [from *swet*.]
1. Covered with sweat; moist with sweat.
The rattlement houted and clapp'd their chop'd hands, and threw up their *sweaty* night-caps. *Shakespeare. Julius Cæsar.*
A *sweaty* reaper from his tillage brought
Fruitful-fruits, the green ear, and the yellow sheaf. *Milton.*
2. Consisting of sweat.
And then, so nice, and so genteel,
Such cleanliness from head to heel;
No humours gross, or slowly steams,
No noisome whiffs, or *sweaty* streams. *Swift.*
3. Laborious; toilsome.
Those who labour
The *sweaty* forge, who edge the crooked scythe,
Bend stubborn steel, and harden gleaming armour,
Acknowledge Vulcan's aid. *Prior.*
- TO SWEAT. *v. a.* [*swapan*, Saxon.]
1. To drive away with a besom.
2. To clean with a besom.
What woman, having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one, doth not *sweep* the house, and seek diligently 'till she find it? *Lu. xv. 8.*
3. To carry with pomp.
Let frantic Talbot triumph for a while,
And bid my will avouch it; yet I must not. *Shakespeare. H. V. I.*
4. To drive or carry off with celerity and violence.
Though I could,
With barefaced powers, *sweep* him from my sight,
And bid my will avouch it; yet I must not. *Shakespeare.*
The river of Kithon *swept* them away. *Jud. v.*
The blustering winds striving for victory, *swept* the snow from off the tops of those high mountains, and cast it down into the plains in such abundance, that the Turks lay as men buried alive. *Kneller's History of the Turks.*
- Flying bullets now
To execute his rage appear too slow;
They miss or *sweep* but common souls away;
For such a loss Opdam his life must pay. *Waller.*
My looking is the fire of pestilence,
That *sweeps* at once the people and the prince. *Dryden.*
I have already *swept* the flakes, and with the common good fortune of prosperous gamblers can be content to sit. *Dryden.*
Is this the man who drives me before him
To the world's ridge, and *sweeps* me off like rubbish? *Dryden.*
Fool! time no change of motion knows;
With equal speed the torrent flows
To *sweep* some, power, and wealth away;
The path is all by death possest,
And fragrant fate that guards the rest,
By giving, bids them live, to day. *Pope.*
A duke holding in a great many hands, drew a huge heap of gold; but never observed a sharper, who under his arm *swept* a great deal of it into his hat. *Swift.*
5. To pass over with celerity and force.
6. To rub over.
Their long descending train
With rubies edg'd, and sapphires *swept* the plain. *Dryden.*

7. To strike with long stroke.
Descend ye nine; descend and sing;
The breathing instruments inspire,
Wake into voice each silent string,
And *sweep* the sounding lyre. *Pope.*
- TO SWEEP. *v. n.*
1. To pass with violence, tumult, or swiftness.
Haste me to know it, that I with wings as swift
As meditation or the thoughts of love
May *sweep* to my revenge. *Shakespeare.*
A poor man that oppresseth the poor, is like a *sweeping* rain which leaveth no food. *Prov. xxviii. iii.*
Before tempestuous winds arise,
Stars shooting through the darkness gild the night
With *sweeping* glories and long trails of light. *Dryden.*
2. To pass with pomp; to pass with an equal motion.
She *sweeps* it through the court with troops of ladies,
More like an empress than duke Humphrey's wife. *Shakespeare.*
In gentle dreams I often will be by,
And *sweep* along before your closing eye. *Dryden.*
3. To move with a long reach.
Nor always errs; for oft the gauntlet draws
A *sweeping* stroke along the crackling jaws. *Dryden.*
- SWEEP. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. The act of sweeping.
2. The compass of any violent or continued motion.
A door drags when by its ill hanging on its hinges, or by the ill boarding of the room the bottom edge of the door rides in its *sweep* upon the floor. *Milton's Meckan. Exercise.*
Lion-hearted Richard like a torrent swell'd
With wintry tempests, that did stain all mounds,
Breaking away impetuous, and involves
Within its *sweep*, trees, houses, men. *Philips.*
3. Violent destruction.
In countries subject to great epidemical *sweeps*, men may live very long, but where the proportion of the chonical distemper is great, it is not likely to be so. *Graunt.*
4. Direction of any motion not rectilinear.
Having made one incision a little circularly, begin a second, bringing it with an opposite *sweep* to meet the other. *Sharp.*
- SWEETENING. *n. f.* [from *sweep*.] That which is swept away.
Should this one broomstick enter the scene, covered with dust, though the *sweepings* of the finest lady's chamber, we should despise its vanity. *Swift.*
- SWEETEN. *n. f.* [*sweep* and *net*.] A net that takes in a great compass.
She was a *sweepnet* for the Spanish ships, which happily fell into her net. *Camden.*
- SWEETSTAKE. *n. f.* [*sweep* and *stake*.] A man that wins all.
Is't writ in your revenge,
That *sweepstake* you will draw both friend and foe,
Winner and loser. *Shakespeare.*
- SWEET'RY. *adj.* [from *sweep*.] Passing with great speed and violence over a great compass at once.
They rush along, the rattling woods give way,
The branches bend before their *sweepy* sway. *Dryden.*
- SWEET. *adj.* [*spete*, Sax. *soet*, Dutch.]
1. Pleasing to any sense.
Sweet expresses the pleasant perceptions of almost every sense: sugar is *sweet*, but it hath not the same sweetness as musick; nor hath musick the sweetness of a rose, and a sweet prospect differs from them all: nor yet have any of these the same sweetness as discourse, counsel, or meditation hath; yet the royal Psalmist saith of a man, we took *sweet* counsel together; and of God, my meditation of him shall be *sweet*. *Watts.*
2. Luscious to the taste.
This honey tasted still is ever *sweet*. *Davies.*
3. Fragrant to the smell.
Balm his soul head with warm distilled waters,
And burn *sweet* wood to make the lodging *sweet*. *Shakespeare.*
Where a rainbow hangeth over or toucheth, there breatheth a *sweet* smell; for that this happeneth but in certain matters which have some sweetness which the dew of the rainbow draweth forth. *Bacon.*
Shred very small with thyme *sweet*-margory and a little winter favour. *Waller's Angler.*
The balmy zephyrs, silent since her death,
Lament the dealing of a *sweeter* breath.
The streets with treble voices ring,
To tell the bounteous product of the spring;
Sweet-smelling flowers, and elders early bud.
Melodious to the ear. *Pope.*
The dulcimer, all organs of *sweet* stop.
Her speech is grac'd with *sweet* ter sound
Than in another's song is found. *Waller.*
No more the streams their murmurs shall forbear
A *sweeter* musick than their own to hear;
But tell the reeds, and tell the vocal shore,
Fair Daphne's dead, and musick is no more. *Pope.*